

From: [Kluesner, Dave](#)
To: [Calderon, Wanda](#)
Subject: FW: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today
Date: Saturday, September 22, 2018 1:22:52 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Here's the email with the "images".

David W. Kluesner



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2

Deputy Director, Public Affairs

290 Broadway, 26th Floor
New York, NY 10007
212.637.3653 (Office)
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From: Kluesner, Dave
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 3:00 PM
To: McKenna, Douglas <McKenna.Douglas@epa.gov>
Cc: Covington, Tayler <covington.tayler@epa.gov>; Sessoms-Midgett, Stephanie <Sessoms-Midgett.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Kraft, Nicole <Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today

Thanks all; this is extremely helpful.

David W. Kluesner



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From: McKenna, Douglas

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 2:07 PM

To: Kluesner, Dave <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>

Cc: Covington, Tayler <covington.tayler@epa.gov>; Sessoms-Midgett, Stephanie <Sessoms-Midgett.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Kraft, Nicole <Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today

Dave, Stephanie has some detailed answers below.

I believe in summary you can tell the reporter that under the Lead and Copper Rule, only water systems who exceed the lead action level need to monitor for lead in their source water. After they monitor they are required to submit a treatment recommendation to the state and then install treatment if the state determines its necessary. Once treatment is installed they need to resample and then the state will make a determination on the maximum levels that can enter the distribution system.

So the reporter would have to check with NJDEP to see if Bordentown ever exceeded the Action Level for Lead and if so did the NJDEP make a source water treatment determination.

From: Sessoms-Midgett, Stephanie

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 1:35 PM

To: McKenna, Douglas <McKenna.Douglas@epa.gov>

Cc: Kraft, Nicole <Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today

Doug,

See my responses below in red.

Steph

From: McKenna, Douglas

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 12:34 PM

To: Sessoms-Midgett, Stephanie <Sessoms-Midgett.Stephanie@epa.gov>

Cc: Kraft, Nicole <Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today

Steph can you answer this for us Nicole is out.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kluesner, Dave" <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>

Date: July 30, 2018 at 12:24:14 PM EDT

To: "McKenna, Douglas" <McKenna.Douglas@epa.gov>, "Kraft, Nicole"

<Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov>

Cc: "Covington, Tayler" <covington.tayler@epa.gov>

Subject: reporter inquiry on lead in drinking water; deadline of 4:30 pm today

Doug and Nicole,

Wondering if you can help answer the highlighted questions from this reporter.

Doesn't appear to be a heavy lift, but please let me know if more time is needed, as I can ask.

Kyle Bagenstose from the Burlington County Times in NJ. I'm working on a story regarding lead in drinking water.

I understand the EPA has a 15 ppb action level for lead through its Lead and Copper program requirements. However, I am wondering if the EPA has any regulatory limit on lead in source water, ie the level of lead in water as it leaves the treatment plant and enters into the distribution system.

A system exceeding the lead or copper action level shall complete lead and copper source water monitoring in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §141.88(b) and make a treatment recommendation to the State (§141.83(b)(1) no later than 180 days after the end of the monitoring period during which the lead or copper action level was exceeded. Once the State makes a determination regarding source water treatment; installation of source water treatment will be required. In addition, the system will be required to complete follow-up tap and source water monitoring. Based upon its review, the State will designate the maximum permissible lead and copper concentrations for finished water entering the distribution system. The levels shall reflect the contaminant removal capability of the treatment properly operated and maintained.

If there is not a hard and fast regulatory limit, does EPA have any guidances or other documents with practices to take if lead exceeds a certain level at the treatment plant?

Refer to above

Also, specifically, the Bordentown City, NJ water system recently had a sample for 6.9 ppb of lead at its treatment plant point of entry. Is this something that requires any specific action by the water provider, and if so is it EPA that would oversee that?

In this case, there is no additional action required to be taken by Bordentown City, unless they had exceeded the action level and the state set a treatment requirement for source water.

The State of New Jersey has been delegated primacy for the Public Water Supply Supervision Program, therefore, any actions required by the Lead and Copper Rule would be the responsibility of the State.

Thank you.

-Kyle

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Kyle Bagenstose

Reporter, environment & investigations

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